

WESSEX Low-Cost 600RES LEAGUE 2014

Scores after the third round at Tarrant Hinton on Sunday 27 July 2014

The third round of the 2014 season was held in fine weather conditions on the wide open spaces at the DMFG Tarrant Hinton flying site. An excellent entry of 12 competitors arrived early and soon a few practice flights were taking place, this time with no pre-competition damage. The moderate winds provided good lift at intervals throughout the day and there were plenty of opportunities to find and stay in it. No flights needed to go to the full 15 minutes, although Ian Sapsed, Rick Churchill and James Parry all flew for over 14 minutes, with Ian landing at 14 minutes 58 seconds.

With an entry of 12 pilots and not counting any fly-offs at the end of the day for pilots with equal scores, each pilot flies five times in this Round Robin competition. The slots are so designed that each pilot will fly once against every other pilot in the competition.

After the pilots' briefing Round 1 got under way in excellent weather conditions, with a maximum three points in each of the three slots for Andrew Fellows, Jeff Fellows and Chris Hague. Malcolm McKendrick and Ian Pratt actually achieved exactly identical times and so had to share the points. This is the first time this has happened and it was difficult for the computer to get its "brain" around that score! Spread sheet supremo Rick Churchill has offered to get "the little grey cells" working to adapt the programme to cope should this happen again. Alternatively I can instruct the time keepers to work to the same accuracy as the Formula 1 timekeepers! That should do the trick!

Round 2 followed with some long flight times, as previously mentioned, resulting in wins for Malcolm McKendrick, Ian Sapsed, Andrew Fellows and also for Darren Bumpass. Peter Kessell failed to score in this round due to an elevator servo failure, however, this was quickly rectified with a little help from some friends.

As the pilots were getting accustomed to the changeable conditions and the site terrain, Round 3 produced some close contests, Malcolm McKendrick narrowly defeating Rick Churchill and Chris Hague, all landing within 10 seconds of each other. Andrew Fellows needed to fly for over 14 minutes to beat a fast improving Roly Nix. Ian Pratt also needed a good flight of over 12 minutes to beat both James Parry and Peter Kessell who landed within 10 seconds of each other.

In Round 4 the wind blew stronger and the lift was difficult to find. Very close wins were achieved for Chris Hague over Ian Sapsed and Darren Bumpass, and also Ian Pratt who narrowly beat Roly Nix and Rick Churchill. Glenn Woodford produced the longest flight, being over eight minutes, to pick up two valuable points against Malcolm McKendrick and Peter Kessell.

In this slot Jeff Fellows flew the new brushless drive train in one of his pusher models. Having only a 25 second motor run time he achieved a similar launch height to the brushed motors and then went on to achieve a flight of over nine minutes which would have won the slot. My current thinking is that we will introduce the new brushless set-up for 2015, with a 25 second motor run time and also allow the existing brushed models to fly, remaining with a 45 second motor run time, thus allowing both drive trains next year. I can email round the motor/ESC part numbers so that an early start can be made on 2015 models. Your feedback is welcome!

By Round 5 the lift had deserted us completely and the short flight times produced some very close contests, keeping the timekeepers on their toes to the very last landing. Valuable points were picked up by Darren Bumpass, Ian Sapsed, Andrew Fellows and Jeff Fellows, the latter needing to fly for only five and a half minutes to beat Chris Hague and Ian Pratt, thus producing the longest flight time of the final round.

And so to the fly-offs. Tenth place was settled in favour of Peter Kessell who out flew Rick Churchill. James Parry, who picked up three wins throughout the day, being unable to compete due to minor damage to both his models, finished eighth. The fly-off for seventh place resulted in a win for Glenn Woodford followed by Darren Bumpass and Roly Nix, all having achieved four wins during the Round Robin contest. Ian Pratt finished in fifth place after beating Malcolm McKendrick in their fly-off contest.

Once again congratulations go to Andrew Fellows for his overall win with a maximum eleven points. Jeff Fellows was second with ten points after just one defeat. Third place went to Ian Sapsed with eight wins, just one valuable win ahead of Chris Hague.

Our thanks go to the DMFG for the use of their huge flying field. Thanks also to the timekeepers who volunteered throughout the day. After a successful third round we look forward to **Round 4 on Sunday 17 August at the Collingbourne Kingston flying site of the Marlborough MFC**. Watch this space at www.wessexaml.co.uk for all the latest information.

The Tarrant Hinton results are as follows:

1st Andrew Fellows 11 points; 2nd Jeff Fellows 10 points; 3rd Ian Sapsed 8 points;
4th Chris Hague 7 points; 5th Ian Pratt 4.5 points;
6th Malcolm McKendrick 4.5 points; 7th Glenn Woodford 4 points;
8th Darren Bumpass 4 points; 9th Roly Nix 4 points; 10th Peter Kessell 3 points;
11th Rick Churchill 3 points; 12th James Parry 3 points.

600RES Class		Round	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1	Andrew Fellows		25	25	25			75
2	Jeff Fellows		24	24	24			72
3	Chris Hague		23	23	22			68
4	Malcolm McKendrick		21	18	20			59
5	Peter Kessell		20	20	16			56
6	Rick Churchill		17	21	15			53
7	Roly Nix		18	17	17			52
8	Glenn Woodford		22	-	19			41
9	Ian Pratt		16	-	21			37
10	Darren Bumpass		-	19	18			37
11	James Parry		19	-	14			33
12	Ian Sapsed		-	-	23			23
13	Tom Airey		-	22	-			22

Remember it is the best 4 scores to count.



Tarrant Hinton podium: 2nd Jeff Fellows; 1st Andrew Fellows; 3rd Ian Sapsed.



600RES models at Tarrant Hinton July 2014



Roly and Ian launch

Ref: WSSX600RR314



Malcolm's new pod and boom Apollo

Chris Hague